

Islands Trust enews

SUMMER 2011



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Welcome to the Summer 2011 edition of the Islands Trust's electronic newsletter. We have designed this for everyone interested in the activities of the Islands Trust—a federation of the local governments responsible for preserving and protecting the unique environment on BC's southern coastal islands and waters through planning and regulating land use, development management, education, cooperation with other agencies and land conservation.

Please forward this newsletter to friends, neighbours or colleagues who you think may be interested in this information.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, or if you would like to add or change a subscription, please [click here](#).

Next Trust Council on Salt Spring Island September 13–15, 2011

The next Trust Council meeting will be at the Community Gospel Chapel on Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island. It begins at noon Tuesday, September 13 and ends noon Thursday, September 15. Agenda highlights include a joint session with members of the San Juan County Council on Wednesday and a presentation from the BC Ferries Commissioner on Thursday. To subscribe to e-mail updates about Trust Council's agenda and decisions, click [here](#). For information on how to address Trust Council, click [here](#).

One way to reduce greenhouse gases at the local level is to support land-use projects that conserve or sequester the carbon now stored in trees.

The Denman Island Community Hall —A great community facility where Trust Council, former trustees and staff gathered each evening.

Islands Trust Council

The Islands Trust Council held its quarterly business meeting June 14–16, 2011 at the Seniors Centre on Denman Island.

June 2011 Decision Highlights

Trust Council Learns About Carbon Offsets

Islands Trust Council devoted two hours of its June meeting to learning about conservation carbon offsets. Trustees are serious about finding ways to reduce greenhouse gases at the local level, and one way to do this can be to support land-use projects that conserve or sequester the carbon now stored in trees. Trustees and staff learned about various kinds of carbon offsets and were introduced to current BC projects that convert forest land into carbon offsets. The revenue from such carbon offset projects can be used to finance land conservation and renewable energy projects. Trustees asked the presenters some challenging questions about the fundamental principle of offsets, suggesting that the marketplace cannot be solely relied on to solve such a serious global issue. Speakers were Mike Vitt, Managing Director of 3GreenTree Ecosystem Services Ltd., Vancouver, BC and Jan Garnett, formerly with the Nature Conservancy of Canada. Jan is now a consultant to Pacific Carbon Trust and was instrumental in the project known as [Darkwoods](#), the largest private conservation purchase in Canadian history. The sale of carbon credits from NCC's Darkwoods property will fund the long term care and management of important natural areas, including the 55,000 hectare Darkwoods conservation area.

Islands Trust senior staff followed the session with an update on the steps the Islands Trust is taking towards becoming carbon neutral in respect to its own operations. One of those steps will be drafting a policy to guide the Islands Trust's purchase of carbon offsets to achieve carbon neutrality. Over 175 BC local governments, including the Islands Trust, have now signed the BC Climate Action Charter. It includes a commitment to become carbon neutral by 2012.



Proposed Raven Underground Coal Mine

Compliance Energy and partners are proposing a new coal mine between Parksville and Courtenay. The mine is projected to produce 2.2 million tonnes of coal per year or 44 million tonnes over the 20 year expected life of the mine. Of the 2.2 million tonnes per year, 700,000 tonnes will remain at the mine site as waste, and 1.5 million tonnes of “clean coal” will be shipped to the hoped-for Asian markets.

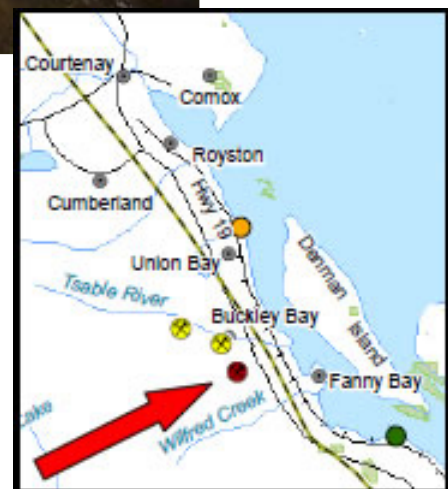
Residents of Denman and Hornby Islands have raised concerns about the project’s potential impacts on air and water quality in their communities. In response to community requests in 2010, Trust Council asked Chair Sheila Malcolmson to write to the BC Premier and selected cabinet ministers to oppose the project. At its June 2011 meeting, Trust Council asked the chair to write to BC’s Environmental Assessment Office and to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency asking for an expanded scope for the review of the project. Chair Malcolmson’s letter asked for a panel of independent experts to consider the potential impact on marine water within the Islands Trust Area, in particular on Baynes Sound and the greenhouse gas emissions that would result from the project. You can read the letter [here](#).

BC Ferries Fares

The Islands Trust Policy Statement recognizes the importance of healthy communities and economies and Trust Council has a history of concern about the social and economic impacts of increased ferry fares. The Islands Trust Executive Committee and individual trustees, sitting on Ferry Advisory Committees, have been very active in advocating on behalf of island communities to control ferry fares. As part of this advocacy effort, Trust Council asked Chair Sheila Malcolmson to write to Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Blair Lekstrom seeking provincial support to stabilize BC Ferries fares on minor routes. You can read this letter [here](#).



Denman Island signs of opposition to the Raven Underground Coal Mine.



Community Stewardship Awards

The Islands Trust Council selected the recipients of the tenth annual Community Stewardship Awards during its quarterly meeting on Denman Island. The awards recognize individuals and groups for significant contributions towards preserving the community, culture or environment of an island. The award program is designed to promote the mandate of the Islands Trust by celebrating the dedicated people who have donated countless hours to enhancing the quality of life in the Trust Area.

For profiles of all nominees, click [here](#).

The Community Stewardship Awards will be presented later this year on the islands where the recipients live. Next year's award nominations will open in March 2012.

Individual Awards



Jane Wolverton, Galiano Island, for her work with the Galiano Food Program.

Group Awards



Hornby New Clinic Committee for planning, coordinating and building a new community medical clinic with Jim Garton, HNC Committee Chair.



Sue Ellen Fast, Bowen Island, for community and conservation work.



Pender Island Fire Rescue Department for serving and protecting the Pender Islands.

Climate Change Award



Barry Mathias, Pender Islands, for the "Car Stops" Program.

Enduring Achievement Award



Sara Steil, Pender Islands, for her community and conservation work.

Sustainable Rural Design on Cortes Island

Cortes Island, north of Denman Island and east of Quadra, is not in the Islands Trust area, but shares many of the same opportunities and challenges. Noba Anderson, the Strathcona Regional District Director for Cortes Island, gave an inspiring presentation at Trust Council in June about successful sustainable rural design projects on her home island. Siskin Lane and Everwoods are two Cortes Island developments that keep forest lands working while embracing the principles of sustainable rural design.

Siskin Lane is a local development initiative with local ownership. The project converted 40% of the Forest zoned land to residential use, and left 60% as common property. Without the revenue generated from selling residential lots, this land would probably have been clearcut. The project's goal is to protect the forest in perpetuity while allowing for a working forest. After significant community consultation, the project proceeded with a conservation covenant held by The Land Conservancy that allows for and supports ecosystem-based forestry, hiking trails and a park. Logging

is at the discretion of a strata council. For more information click [here](#).

Everwoods is a forest-based community with an ecovillage community on a 153 acre property with a 10 acre density. By creating a shareholder corporate structure, Everwoods made 15 shares available to build homes on small footprint homesites. The total cumulative disturbance of all 15 homesites was only 1.5 acres, while over 90% of the remaining land remains as working forest. Each share has all the same common rights and responsibilities and is assigned an individual fully-serviced homesite. All costs, including land (not improvement) taxes are shared as in a strata corporation. There are several common areas for servicing, garden and common space. The timber rights for all the trees on the property belong to the [Trust for Sustainable Forestry](#) and are protected by a covenant held by The Land Conservancy. For more information [e-mail Bill Friedel](#).

Siskin Lane and Everwoods are two Cortes Island developments that keep forest lands working while embracing the principles of sustainable rural design.



Left to right: Everwoods lookout; Everwoods stairway.

Islands Trust Chair Presents at Saturna Ratepayers Meeting

At the invitation of the Saturna Island Ratepayers Association (SIPOA), Islands Trust Chair Sheila Malcolmson spoke about the Islands Trust to a keen audience at the Saturna Island Recreation Centre on May 28. The presentation was well attended, and included former trustees Jim Campbell, Tom Johnstone and John Money.



SIPOA Ratepayers meeting. Photo courtesy of the Saturna Scribbler.

Islands Trust Area News

Islands Trust CAO Presents at Islanders for Self-Government (Salt Spring)

At the invitation of the Islanders for Self Government (ISG) on Salt Spring Island, Islands Trust Chief Administrative Officer Linda Adams and Director of Administrative Services Craig Elder spoke to an audience of over 100 at ArtSpring on the evening of May 3. Following a brief introduction to the history and structure of the Islands Trust, they answered a number of questions posed by ISG regarding the Islands Trust budget, services the Islands Trust provides to Salt Spring Island and how a municipality functions within the Islands Trust. A PowerPoint presentation used at the meeting is available on the Islands Trust's [new governance webpage](#).

Islands Trust Website Status Update

The Islands Trust has been seeking proposals from website contractors to update the Islands Trust and Islands Trust Fund websites. The competition for proposals was advertised on BC Bid and closed on July 11. Senior staff are now evaluating the proposals to ensure the selected contractor is cost-effective and familiar with the latest user-friendly tools for public engagement in local government. The goal is to have the new website ready in time to load the photos and contact information for the new trustees sworn in at the December 2011 Trust Council meeting. Users of the current website have sent many helpful suggestions for improvement and more are always welcome. Please e-mail your ideas to webcomments@islandstrust.bc.ca.

Seniors Video Project

With a grant from the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Initiative, the Islands Trust is creating three short videos on the past, present and future of the Islands Trust. The project is being guided by a project advisory group, as well as the project partner, the Gulf Islands Film and Television School based on Galiano Island. The volunteers on the project advisory group are: Sophie Arthaud (Gabriola), Melinda Auerbach (Lasqueti), Peter Lamb (Salt Spring), and Roxanna Mandryk (Denman).

The videos will become a lasting testament to the decades of civic leadership that have made island communities so special, and will provide information about the Islands Trust to islanders, new trustees, staff, newcomers and other interested groups.

Filming is scheduled for October, 2011 and the videos should be available for distribution and posting to the Islands Trust website in December.

Trust Council Advocacy

Under the *Islands Trust Act*, one of Trust Council's roles is to make recommendations to BC government agencies about policies that affect the preservation and protection of the unique amenities and environment of the Islands Trust Area. In recent years, and in response to many requests from concerned islanders, Trust Council has approved staffing and budget increases that have created greater capacity to promote those interests—in both the provincial and federal arenas.

On a practical level, more capacity for advocacy means more staff research into threats to the environment and economy of the islands, a greater presence at inter-agency meetings, more letters from the Islands Trust Chair to ministers and more partnerships built with communities with similar goals and concerns. The highest priority goes to topics addressed in the Islands Trust Policy Statement, topics being debated in the legislature (such as BC Ferry fares) and topics trustees hear about from islanders during town hall sessions at Trust Council and at local trust committee meetings.

Over the last few years significant attention has gone to BC Ferry fares, groundwater protection, abandoned and derelict vessels in island waters and shipping safety. Based on original staff research into the number of oil tankers traveling in the Salish Sea from the Port of Vancouver, the Islands Trust recently made a submission to the National Energy Board on a particular application to further expand port capacity. Given the intimate connections between the vitality of island communities, the economy and the marine environment, Trust Council has a particular interest in preventing oil spills large and small. Click [here](#) to read this year's advocacy letters.

Islands Trust Planners Present at Planning Institute of BC Conference

Islands Trust staff played a significant role at the Planning Institute of BC's annual conference held from May 31 to June 3 in Nanaimo. This annual conference is an important way for planners to stay informed about current issues and ideas in the profession and to network with other planning professionals. Islands Trust staff also contribute to such conferences by highlighting important work at the Islands Trust.

Northern Regional Planning Manager Chris Jackson was on the organizing committee that met for more than a year to plan the four-day event that attracted more than 425 planners and related professionals from across the province. He was also a master of ceremonies during the conference. Chris Jackson and planners Sonja Zupanec, Kaitlin Kazmierowski and Courtney Campbell volunteered as session moderators while other planners from all three Islands Trust offices attended the conference.

Kaitlin Kazmierowski and Courtney Campbell presented at a session focused on food security and agriculture planning. Kaitlin made a presentation on food security in the Islands Trust area based on the report she prepared for Trust Council, and Courtney presented the Denman Island Agriculture Strategy with the two consultants who worked on the project. There was a lot of interest in the Islands Trust's work from other local government planners who are addressing similar topics in their own communities.



Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference “Many Voices, One Sea” Vancouver, October 25–27, 2011

The Islands Trust Executive Committee agreed in July to sponsor the [Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference](#).

The 2011 conference, co-hosted by Environment Canada and the Puget Sound Partnership, presents the latest scientific research on the state of the ecosystem. The conference also shares information on policy options, recent management actions and best practices to protect and restore the Salish Sea Ecosystem. The conference emphasizes the importance of collaboration among scientists and policymakers to solve complex environmental issues that cross political borders. The conference will take place at the Sheraton Wall Centre in Vancouver, British Columbia over three days, October 25 to 27, 2011 with the possibility of pre-conference workshops.



Top: Carmen Thiel;
Bottom: Willow Keeling

Records Management System Improvements

The Islands Trust's paper and electronic filing system is converted to the new records classification system based on one developed by the Local Government Management Association. The Islands Trust Fund's files were converted first, thanks to extra work by Natalie Tamosiunas, and expert assistance from consultant Marion Villines. The next areas to be tackled will be Trust Area Services, Administrative Services and Executive Office, followed by the local planning offices. The new ColorBar labels, shown here with Carmen Thiel, Legislative Services Manager, are part of the conversion project.

Willow Keeling, enrolled at the University of British Columbia in the Master of Library and Information Science program, joined the Islands Trust in June as a coop student. Over the summer she will be conducting an inventory of all files stored at the warehouse, including advising which material may be archived and which may be destroyed. Once the inventory is complete, and time permitting, Willow will organize the reference libraries in each office and help out with the ongoing conversion of existing records.

Improvements to the Islands Trust's records management system were an objective of Trust Council's Strategic Plan and are intended to reduce costs and make it easier and simpler to retrieve documents needed by the public, trustees and staff.

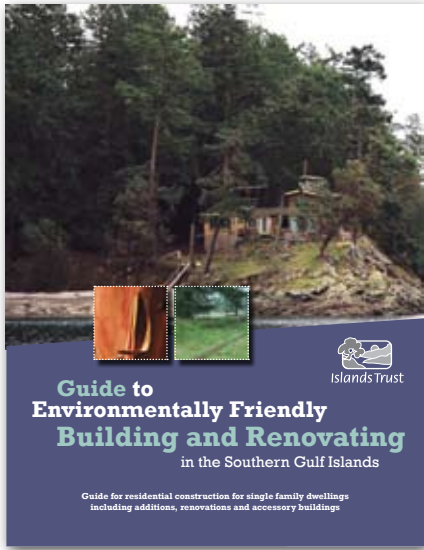
Denman Island Plans Green Cemetery

The Denman Conservancy Association is donating one hectare in Central Park on Denman Island for this project and will hold a conservation covenant on the land. The Denman Island Memorial Society is close to completing the subdivision and conservation covenant. The burial ground is being designed with the help of a Vancouver non-profit society comprised mainly of landscape architects, of which Kathy is a member.

The goal of natural or "green" burial is to return human remains to the earth in their natural state, with little or no impact on the environment. No embalming fluid is used, and the coffin or other container is totally biodegradable. Natural burial grounds do not memorialize the deceased with gravestones. Instead, indigenous flat stones or plants may be placed on the grave sites. Natural burial grounds do not use flower gardens, lawns, fertilizers or herbicides. Instead, the burial area is allowed to regenerate naturally over time. Once completed, the Denman burial ground may be the first exclusively green cemetery in Canada. For more information on natural burials, visit [here](#).



Dr. Kathy Dunster talks to trustees about plans for a green cemetery on Denman Island.



Building or Renovating on the Southern Gulf Islands?

The Islands Trust has produced a new guide and three fact sheets to help you decide about things like site location and applying for variances. These easy-to-read publications will help you achieve your dreams while avoiding ecological impacts. You can also find information about financial incentives and other resources to help you build in harmony with island ecosystems.

You can get printed publications from your [local planner](#), or click on the titles below to get pdf versions.

[Guide to Environmentally Friendly Building and Renovating in the Southern Gulf Islands](#)

[Fact Sheet: Choosing a Building Site on Your Lot](#)

[Fact Sheet: Making Changes to Your Lot Line](#)

[Fact Sheet: Applying for a Variance](#)

“Best Practices for Building and Living on Lasqueti Island” Booklet Now Available

In 2009, the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee resolved to lower local Green House Gas Emissions (GHG) in the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area. One of the committee’s projects was a booklet for anyone contemplating changes to their property, entitled “Best Practices for Building and Living on Lasqueti Island.”

The Lasqueti Island Advisory Planning Commission drafted the booklet using the Salt Spring Island Sustainability Checklist as a model, along with input from the public and trustees. The final result is a 20-page colour booklet that is a compilation of great ideas from people who have learned about building and developing property sustainably in this unique place.

The booklet is now available [here](#).



*The Land Awards:
Recognizing
dynamic, forward-
thinking people
and organizations*

Do you Know An Individual or Group That Leads the Way in Sustainable Use and Conservation?

The Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia will again recognize leaders in creating sustainable communities and making BC a better place to live. The Foundation looks for “Individual Land Champion”, as well as the private companies, government bodies and not-for-profit organizations that demonstrate leadership, innovation and collaboration related to the sustainable use and conservation of land in British Columbia.

Nominations will be accepted until September 8th. Winners will be recognized at the Land Awards Gala, to be held on Thursday, November 3, 2011 at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. Does this describe someone you know? For more information, click [here](#).

Grade Five Students Tour Ganges Harbour, Salt Spring Island

In June, members of the Salt Spring Elementary Grade 5 class made a presentation to the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee on-site at Ganges Harbour. The students produced a beautiful hand-drawn map about the environment, ecology and history of the harbour, a detail of which is shown below.



Grants Available for Community Groups

There are numerous government, foundation and corporate grants available to assist community groups and non profit organizations with their valuable community projects. The following list provides a sample of grants currently available. As grant deadlines can change and eligibility guidelines vary, please contact each funder directly for full details.

Government, foundation and corporate grants are available to assist community groups and non profit organizations with their valuable community projects. The following list provides a sample of grants currently available for conservation, environment, land use and community projects. Additional grants are listed [here](#).

The Islands Trust also maintains a list of grants available for food security related projects. Click [here](#).

Tip for grant seekers: For a complete list of regional, provincial and national funding sources for arts, environment, social sector, education and more, you may want to visit the [Victoria Foundation website](#).

Islands Trust Fund

Managing Deer Populations on Sidney Island

Exploding deer populations in the Gulf Islands have been making local and national headlines. With no natural predators on the islands, deer populations go unchecked, to the detriment of native Gulf Island wildflowers, grasses and shrubs. Heavy browsing can even prevent forests from regenerating. Hunting deer is a controversial issue but some advocates believe hunting is the only way to control deer populations that exceed an island's natural carrying capacity. With a large proportion of the islands held in private property there is very little room for public hunting and in some areas hunting is banned.

Once described as an “unspoiled Gulf Island paradise,” Sidney Island's natural areas have been heavily affected by the island's population of non-native European fallow deer. At the southern end of the Gulf Islands archipelago, Sidney Island is 890 hectares with 178 hectares held in the Sidney Spit Marine Park and the remaining 712 hectares owned privately by the Sallas Forest Strata Corporation. The strata donated eight conservation covenants on its common property to the Islands Trust Fund to ensure the island's natural features are protected forever. Nevertheless, in 2008, the island's deer population—estimated to be in the thousands (three per hectare)—was starving, having consumed all the grasses, shrubs and unprotected young trees. Malnourished, they were seen consuming every last bit of greenery, even thistle and bullrushes.

The strata tried to control the fallow deer solely with hunting, but a population explosion from 2004 through 2007 compelled the owners to take a more formal and coordinated approach. Since 2008, the strata, Islands Trust Fund, Ministry of Environment, and Parks Canada have all been involved in a project to combine hunting with live capture. With start-up funding from the Islands Trust Fund and other partners, the strata built a deer-handling barn and capturing facilities. A mobile abattoir was brought to the island on three occasions. Since the start of the project, the strata has had considerable success lowering the fallow deer population from 2,067 to 737. By selling the wild venison to Vancouver markets, the operation produced some revenues toward the costs of capture and processing, and created a fund for future deer management purposes.

To further reduce the stress deer browsing has on the island's rare Garry Oak ecosystems, the Islands Trust Fund and the strata have teamed up to construct enclosure plots—fenced areas which will exclude deer. The plots will protect a number of species at risk, and provide ecologists a chance to monitor how the ecosystems regenerate in the absence of the deer.

The Sidney Island deer management project is a pioneering project in the Gulf Islands. The term of the Sallas Forest Strata Corporation's permit to capture and sell the deer expires in 2013. At that time, the partners intend to have developed a long-term plan to manage the population at a sustainable level. As this phase of the project draws to a close, it will be important to share the data and lessons learned with other island groups dealing with over-browsing. For more information, please contact Jeff Ralph, Acting Property Manager, Islands Trust Fund, 250-405-5193 or jralph@islandstrust.bc.ca.



Non-native European fallow deer on Sidney Island. Photo by Dave Polster.



Wildflowers needing protecting from deer browse. Photo by Jeff Ralphs.

Lois Kennedy Leaves Legacy for Gambier Island

Dr. Lois Kennedy, who passed away in the spring of 2010, was an extraordinary community volunteer and conservation leader. Lois was a founding director and guiding light of the Gambier Island Conservancy. Through the local Streamkeepers, she joined other volunteers to assess, map and restore the island's watersheds and streams. She also served on the boards of the Sunshine Coast Conservation Association, the Sunshine Coast Community Foundation, and the Iris Griffiths Centre. Lois was an optimistic force on Gambier Island and always ready to take on new projects.

As a final contribution to her community, Lois left a gift of \$100,000 to the Islands Trust Fund as a charitable bequest. In her will, Lois asked the Islands Trust Fund to use the gift to purchase, enhance or maintain public conservation lands on Gambier. Lois' donation is now held in trust towards acquiring a new nature reserve on Gambier Island, a decision that will rely on the advice of the Gambier Island Conservancy.

A charitable bequest is a gift made through a will and can include money, securities or real estate. A will can also specify a charitable gift that is a percentage of your estate or the residue of your estate after assets are divided among

other recipients. In leaving a charitable bequest, you create a legacy that supports your vision of a better future for your community. The receipt issued when the gift is received can reduce the taxes owed by your estate or provide a tax credit on your estate's final income tax return. If your circumstances change, you can change your will at any time.

A charitable bequest to the Islands Trust Fund conserves fragile and rare habitats in the Howe Sound and Gulf Islands. Working with the Islands Trust Fund, you can dedicate your charitable bequest to a specific island or project, or generalize your gift to be used on the next conservation opportunity that arises in the islands. Because of the Islands Trust Fund's unique financial relationship with the Islands Trust, none of your gift goes to administrative costs. Your gift goes only to the project you choose.

If you would like more information on how you can make a charitable bequest to conservation in the islands like Lois did, please contact Christine Pritchard, Communications and Fundraising Specialist, Islands Trust Fund at 250.405.5171 or cpritchard@islandstrust.bc.ca.

You may also visit us [here](#) and visit [Give Green Canada](#).



Gambier Island. Photo by Rick Gustavson.



Dr. Lois Kennedy 1946-2010.

A charitable bequest to the Islands Trust Fund conserves fragile and rare habitats in the Howe Sound and Gulf Islands.

Staff Notes

Brodie Porter Retires after 20 Years

July 4 marked Brodie Porter's last official day at work after more than 20 years with the Islands Trust. He started on August 20, 1990 as a planning officer of the southern team in Victoria and became regional planning manager in 2007.

"Brodie has worked on almost every island in the Islands Trust Area," said Linda Adams, Chief Administrative Officer. "His calm demeanour and his wisdom will be missed. Whenever there was a really tough problem, staff would say 'let's ask Brodie.' Throughout his career at the Islands Trust, he has set a superb example of professionalism, compassion and mentorship."

When he started there were no cell phones, no computers, no e-mail. "Land lines, paper and overhead projectors were high tech then," said Brodie. One piece of advice that Brodie offered new staff is to be flexible and adaptable to rapidly changing conditions. One example he cited was the time when there was no one to open a meeting hall and so he moved the meeting outdoors. Occasional power outages on the islands can still make flipcharts more useful than power point presentations.

At a recent staff potluck to say farewell, Brodie recalled his first day at the Islands Trust. In order to attend a meeting on a Saturday on Bowen Island he took the ferry from Nanaimo to Horseshoe Bay on Friday night. The ferry was late and by the time it docked his hotel room was no longer available. "By then it was one o'clock in the morning and I didn't really want to bother any friends I knew in Vancouver so I wound up sleeping at the BC Ferry terminal in a plastic chair," said Brodie. "It was a little tough to look bright and chipper the next day at the meeting."

Director of Local Planning Services David Marlor advises that Brodie's aversion to rolling seas and bouncing float planes was the main reason Brodie became the Regional Planning Manager for the southern team, rather than the northern team. A couple of rough ferry trips to Lasqueti Island were sufficient to convince Brodie to move to the south, where he thought he would find calmer seas.

In the last few years Brodie has filled in as acting Regional Planning Manager on Salt Spring Island and more recently as acting Island Planner for Gambier and Hornby Islands. "The opportunity to take on these temporary placements has been personally very rewarding both as a means to experience these other regions of the Islands Trust and to revisit some of the fundamentals of local planning on Hornby and Gambier after years at a managerial level," said Brodie.

Brodie's immediate plans include more cycling, swimming and learning to play the trumpet.

Courtney Campbell Honoured by Premier's Award for Innovation

A BC Public Service award program has honoured Courtney Campbell, Island Planner, for her work on a rezoning application that led to the creation of Denman Island's largest provincial park. Ministry of Environment staff and partners won in the category "Vancouver Island Region Innovation." Regional Planning Manager, Chris Jackson said, "It is an honour to get provincial recognition for our work. Courtney worked really hard with behind-the-scenes support from administrative staff Becky McErlean and Jacquie Hill."



Brodie Porter

About the Premier's Awards

The annual Premier's Awards honour the best in British Columbia's Public Service, recognizing the work of B.C.'s public service employees and teams who make positive contributions to this province.

This year, 26 finalists were short-listed in a variety of sectors and 8 winners across the various service areas were chosen.

British Columbia Premier Christy Clark handed out the awards at the 7th Annual Premier's Awards ceremony in Victoria.

The annual provincial awards ceremony is the BC Public Service's highest recognition event. It acknowledges achievements in all areas of public service including Cross-Government Integration, Emerging Leader, Innovation, Leadership, Legacy, Organizational Excellence, Partnership and Service Excellence.



Kaitlin Kazmierowski



Stefan Cermak



Linda McClung



New Island Planner Appointed for Southern Team

Kaitlin Kazmierowski was the successful applicant for the position of Island Planner on the Southern Team, filling the position vacated by Robert Kojima when he became the team’s Regional Planning Manager. By the end of August, Kaitlin will vacate her position as the Island Planner for Gabriola and will be responsible for Mayne Island and the Executive Islands.

Kaitlin has a Master of Science Planning Degree from the School of Community and Regional Planning at UBC, and a Bachelor Environmental Science Degree (in land use and resource management) from the University of Guelph.

The Islands Trust is working to fill the Island planner position in the Northern Office as soon as possible.

Salt Spring Planner Appointed

Planner Stefan Cermak has accepted a promotion to the Planner 2 position on Salt Spring Island. The position became vacant following an internal promotion of Justine Starke to Island Planner. “In this position, Stefan will take on the important role of transferring new policies and strategies to the day to day business of development application review and guidance,” said Leah Hartley, Regional Planning Manager.

Stefan Cermak joined the Salt Spring team in July 2010 when he started in a newly created planning position on the island. Stefan has a Bachelor’s degree in resource management and environmental studies from the University of Victoria. His honours thesis was about eco-homes on Salt Spring Island. Originally from Tsawwassen, Stefan has also worked with City of Richmond and the Capital Regional District.

Bylaw Enforcement Administrative Assistant Hired to Cover Parental Leave

Linda McClung joined the Islands Trust in early May, filling the duties of the bylaw enforcement administrative assistant while Stephanie Sommers is away on parental leave. Linda has 20 years of experience in office administration, client relations and customer service. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree and does volunteer work as a business consultant for marketing and web design as well as academic tutoring.

“Linda’s role is to ensure the public has someone they can reach every day to answer questions and help resolve their concerns,” says Miles Drew, Bylaw Enforcement Coordinator.

The Trust Area covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island, including Howe Sound and as far north as Comox. This is a unique and special place composed of 13 major islands and more than 450 smaller islands covering approximately 5200 square kilometres.

Follow Islands Trust on Twitter

